

Amendments To The Claims

1. *(canceled)*.
2. *(canceled)*.
3. *(canceled)*.
4. *(canceled)*.
5. *(canceled)*.
6. *(canceled)*.
7. *(canceled)*.
8. *(canceled)*.
9. *(canceled)*.
10. *(canceled)*.
11. *(canceled)*.
12. *(canceled)*.
13. *(canceled)*.
14. *(canceled)*.
15. *(currently amended)*. A method of identifying compounds that modulate serine protease C-E ~~protein~~ activity, comprising:
 - (a) combining a ~~modulator of protease C-E protein activity~~ test compound, a serine protease C-E ~~protein~~ comprising a catalytic domain amino acid sequence as set forth in SEQ ID NO:8, and a labeled substrate; and
 - (b) measuring a change in the labeled substrate to detect modulation of serine protease C-E activity by the test compound.
16. *(currently amended)* The method of claim 15 wherein the measuring of the change in the labeled substrate is performed by a method selected from the group consisting of ~~fluoregenic~~ fluorogenic, ~~colormetric~~ colorimetric, radiometric, and fluorescent resonance energy transfer (FRET) assays.
17. *(canceled)*.
18. *(canceled)*.
19. *(canceled)*.

20. *(canceled)*.

21. *(canceled)*.

22. *(canceled)*.

23. *(canceled)*.

24. *(canceled)*.

25. *(canceled)*.

26. *(canceled)*.

27. *(canceled)*.

28. *(new)* The method of claim 15 wherein the labeled substrate is a chromogenic substrate and the measuring of the change in labeled substrate comprises monitoring amidolytic activity of serine protease C-E by release of para-nitroaniline from the chromogenic substrate.